

Message Text

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13

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 MC-02 ACDA-19 SSO-00

NSCE-00 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 INRE-00 AID-20 IGA-02 DRC-01 /131 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9322

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1507

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS KU

SUBJECT: FMS KUWAIT - AIRCRAFT

REF: (A) STATE 77810 (B) KUWAIT 1494 (C) KUWAIT 1499

1. REF A APPARENTLY CROSSED KUWAIT REFTELS WHICH REPORTED AND COMMENTED ON SALE OF FRANCH MIRAGE F-1S TO KUWAIT.

2. AS OF NOW WE HAVE NO FIRST HAND AUTHORITATIVE INFO ON THIRD COUNTRY TRANSFER CONDITIONS. IN APRIL 16 PRESS CONFERENCE MINDEF SHAIKH SAAD WHEN ASKED IF ANY STRINGS ARE ATTACHED SAID THAT ANY CONDITIONS UNACCEPTABLE TO KUWAIT WILL BE REJECTED. PRESS QUOTES HIM AS SAYING, "WE ARE FREE TO USE OUR ARMS THE WAY WE SEE IT SERVING OUR INTERESTS." PRESS REPORTED HE THEN REITERATED THAT NO STRINGS WHATSOEVER ARE ATTACHED TO THE DEALS.

3. KUWAIT TIMES OF APRIL 17 ALSO INCLUDED REUTERS DISPATCH FROM PARIS IN WHICH IT WAS STATED THAT NO CONDITIONS HAVE BEEN IMPOSED AND THE KUWAITI GOVERNMENT WILL BE FREE TO USE THEM AT ANY TIME AND IN ANY PLACE. INFO PRESUMABLY IS FROM FRENCH MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WHICH, ACCORDING TO REUTERS ITEM, ANNOUNCED SALE IN PARIS.

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3. COMMENT: SHAIKH SAAD'S COMMENTS WERE ESSENTIALLY SAME AS

PREVIOUS REMARKS MADE TO LOCAL AUDIENCES. WE, OF COURSE, CANNOT
COMMENT ON REUTERS STORY EXCEPT TO SAY THAT IT CONTAINS SEVERAL
ERRORS (REF C) SO THAT ITS GENERAL CREDIBILITY IS WEAK. IT
WEEK-END HERE NOW SO THAT IT MAY BE FEW DAYS BEFORE WE SHALL HAVE
CHANCE TO TALK ABOUT DEAL WITH INDIVIDUALS WHO LIKELY KNOW
SPECIFIC TERMS. AS SOON AS WE HAVE MORE PRECISE INFO WE SHALL
REPORT IT.
MCCLELLAND

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 18 APR 1974
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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